

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 98-791

December 29, 1998

BANGOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY,
Request for Approval of
Extension and Amendment of
Special Rate Contract with
Fort James

ORDER APPROVING
LIMITED EXTENSION

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

On October 13, 1998, Bangor Hydro-Electric Company (BHE) filed a request for approval of a five-year extension and amendment to its special rate contract with Fort James (formerly James River). BHE's current contract with Fort James expires on December 31, 1998, unless the Commission approves an extension.

Because there is not enough time between now and when the contract expires to adequately review the requested extension, we will allow the contract (as amended pursuant to the instant filing) to go into effect on a month-to-month basis while we conduct our review. At the conclusion of our review, we will determine whether to allow further extension. On December 11, 1998 the Hearing Examiner issued a Procedural Order that described this approach and required any parties that objected to it, to file their objections by December 21, 1998. In its filing, BHE indicated that it did not object to this approach and the Commission did not receive any objections from other parties to this proceeding.

Accordingly, we

O R D E R

That the amendment and extension to the contract between BHE and Fort James, as filed on October 13, 1998, may go into effect on January 1, 1999 as requested and may stay in effect, continuing on a month-to-month basis until the Commission takes final action in this matter.

Dated at Augusta, Maine this 29th day of December, 1998.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR:

Welch
Nugent (via telephone)
Diamond

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of adjudicatory proceedings are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 6(N) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.11) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which consideration is sought.

2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320 (1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 73 et seq.

3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320 (5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.